



MHEC
MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

**REPORT ON THE INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS
FOR TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM**

March 2003

BACKGROUND

The Innovative Partnerships for Technology Program (IPT) provides State-matching funds for donations from the private sector or public foundations for the technology needs of eligible community colleges. Community colleges may receive contributions in the form of cash or non-cash donations. All donations must be earmarked specifically for technology. The purpose of the program is to enhance the technology resources available to the community colleges and to leverage private and foundation support through the use of State matching funds. This program attempts to address the burgeoning demands for technology at the community colleges, which must develop and sustain strong technological infrastructures, services and training vital to continue their role for academic and professional success. As community colleges work to develop new business alliances and working partnerships, as well as new technology endowments, contributions earmarked specifically for technology are matched by the State, dollar-for-dollar, up to \$700,000 per eligible institution over the grant period (fiscal 1999 to fiscal 2006).

Chapters 600 and 601, Acts of 1998 initially established the IPT program. Under this program, the State agreed to match a maximum of \$400,000, which was broken down into two \$200,000 increments over a four-year period (fiscal 1999 to fiscal 2002) for each community college. This initial four years of the IPT program was a great success with all but one eligible institution achieving the maximum State match. The State is required to pay the match in the second fiscal year following the eligible donation. Fiscal 2003 is the third year in which donations up to \$200,000 must be matched by the State and fiscal 2004 will be the fourth and final year for providing State-matching grants under Chapters 600 and 601. Between fiscal 1999 and fiscal 2002, eligible donations totaled \$8.7 million however, due to the State's current fiscal situation, full funding of this program has been deferred to future years. Only \$5.5 million of the \$8.7 million in State matching payments have been made, with the remaining \$3.3 million deferred (Table I).

In 2002, the General Assembly passed legislation, which extended the eligibility period of the IPT program for four additional fiscal years and changed the maximum State match amount (Chapter 413, Acts of 2002). With the modification and extension of this program, the State has agreed to match a maximum of \$300,000, which is broken down into two \$150,000 increments over a four-year period (fiscal 2003 to fiscal 2006) for each community college. Once again, the State is required to pay this match in the second fiscal year following the eligible donation. Therefore, fiscal 2005 will be the first year in which donations up to \$150,000 must be matched and fiscal 2008 will be the fourth and final year for providing State-matching grants under Chapter 413.

ELIGIBLE DONATIONS

For a donation to be considered eligible, it must be made by an eligible donor and designated for technology, which is defined under statute as "any hardware, software, communication infrastructure, associated training, and contracted services that enable local or global presentation, exchange, and transmission of information in digital or analog form for teaching, learning, student support services and administration. The definition of technology includes

capital expenditures but does not include staff.” Any individual, private or public foundation (including the affiliated foundation of a community college), non-profit organization, or business may be an eligible donor. However, no local, State, federal or foreign government entity can be an eligible donor. Donations of equipment are assessed at fair market (monetary) values by an independent evaluator. Given the expense of upgrading old equipment and of making different systems compatible, a campus has the right to refuse equipment on a case-by-case basis.

IMPACT OF THE PROGRAM

The community college campuses participating in IPT report that the program has had an immediate impact on their institutions, accruing both short-term and long-term benefits to instruction, student services, and administration. It is clear that the IPT Program acts as a catalyst for developing community partnerships that will remain an important part of the institutions’ efforts to keep up with the demand for rapidly evolving instructional and administrative technology. In general, the colleges focused their efforts first on instructional technology to benefit students directly. More specifically, they note the following program benefits:

- New curricular programs for workforce development generated by college-corporate partnerships;
- Increased communication between the community colleges and area organizations, resulting in curricular innovation, new instructional sites, and technology advisory boards;
- New and upgraded computer labs for students;
- New instructional equipment and software for faculty and students, including specialized software and equipment for mathematics, electronics, manufacturing, nursing, and allied health;
- The addition of “smart classrooms,” which are equipped with multimedia instructional;
- The creation of technology endowments to support current and future technology needs;
- Improved administrative computing, including better software for tracking enrollment and providing student services; and
- Servers and software to enhance or allow online courses and related means of distance learning.

Maryland community colleges have received donations from national and regional corporations, local businesses, foundations, and individuals. These contributions came in the form of:

- Cash, including funds earmarked for technology endowments;
- Donated installation, consulting, and maintenance services;
- Price discounts on hardware and software; and
- Donated software and hardware and other equipment.

Though significant technology needs persist, overall the IPT Program is a public-private endeavor that has provided markedly improved technology to Maryland community colleges and

has been instrumental in forging new means of addressing the technology needs of the community colleges.

Although participation in this program has been outstanding, the community colleges have expressed their concerns regarding the timing of State-matching payments. In general, fiscal constraints have led the State to defer its matching obligations. As previously mentioned, only \$5.5 million of the \$8.7 million in State matching payments for phase I of this program have been made and the remaining \$3.3 million has been deferred. Many institutions are concerned that with the continued delay of these payments donors may be apprehensive of making significant contributions until the State matches its previous commitments.

**Table I. Innovative Partnerships For Technology
Donations and Eligible Match: FY 1999 to FY 2002 (Phase I)**

Institution	FY 1999-2000		Eligible Donations		Total Donations		State Payment		Total	Balance
	Eligible Match	FY 2001	FY 2001	FY 2002	2nd Eligible Period	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	Payments	Due
Allegany College of Maryland	\$ 200,000	\$ 112,750	\$ 88,707	\$ 200,000	\$ 96,280	\$ 82,934	\$ 87,787	\$ 267,001	\$ 132,999	
Anne Arundel Community College	200,000	106,957	275,550	200,000	-	65,581	158,681	224,262	175,738	
Baltimore City Community College	200,000	145,897	54,103	200,000	92,032	82,169	111,559	285,759	114,241	
Carroll Community College	200,000	46,977	90,276	137,252	113,892	86,108	-	200,000	137,252	
Cecil Community College	200,000	10,000	249,505	200,000	113,892	86,108	6,574	206,574	193,426	
College of Southern MD--Calvert Co./Prince Frederick	200,000	65,499	134,501	200,000	99,086	83,440	54,547	237,072	162,928	
College of Southern MD--Charles Co./Waldorf/La Plata	200,000	200,000	-	200,000	113,892	86,108	131,480	331,480	68,520	
College of Southern MD--St. Mary's Co./Leonardtown	200,000	136,953	63,047	200,000	113,892	86,108	90,033	290,033	109,967	
Chesapeake College	200,000	130,015	79,304	200,000	23,437	69,805	155,655	248,897	151,103	
Community College of Baltimore Co.--Catonsville	200,000	123,533	89,011	200,000	113,892	86,108	81,211	281,211	118,789	
Comm. Coll. of Baltimore Co.--Dundalk	200,000	70,872	144,447	200,000	102,090	83,981	55,748	241,819	158,181	
Comm. Coll. of Baltimore Co.--Essex	200,000	123,533	131,011	200,000	109,227	85,268	84,831	279,325	120,675	
Frederick Community College	200,000	10,673	204,996	200,000	107,195	84,901	12,212	204,309	195,691	
Garrett College	200,000	44,250	165,522	200,000	62,242	76,799	69,165	208,206	191,794	
Hagerstown Community College	200,000	44,235	308,720	200,000	113,892	86,108	29,080	229,080	170,920	
Harford Community College	200,000	48,911	229,612	200,000	31,687	71,292	95,936	198,915	201,085	
Howard Community College	200,000	55,128	144,872	200,000	20,225	69,227	108,916	198,368	201,632	
Montgomery College--Germantown	200,000	200,000	-	200,000	27,756	70,584	198,312	296,652	103,348	
Montgomery College--Rockville	200,000	200,000	-	200,000	-	65,581	219,847	285,429	114,571	
Montgomery College--Takoma Park	200,000	50,300	190,114	200,000	113,892	86,108	33,067	233,067	166,933	
Prince George's Community College	200,000	12,500	232,606	200,000	87,374	81,329	28,792	197,495	202,505	
Wor-Wic Community College	200,000	200,000	-	200,000	104,130	84,349	139,054	327,533	72,467	
Total	\$ 4,400,000	\$ 2,138,983	\$ 2,875,903	\$ 4,337,252	\$ 1,760,000	\$ 1,760,000	\$ 1,952,488	\$ 5,472,488	\$ 3,264,764	

Note: For Phase I, the first eligible period consists of FY 1999 and FY 2000 and the second eligible period consists of FY 2001 and FY 2002.

Source: Maryland Higher Education Commission